GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3509
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2015
Inclusion of Historical Places on the Tourist Map
Nagar Shri Rodmal

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan formulated by the Government to increase the number of domestic tourists and to include the sites of the ancient and historical importance on the tourist map;
(b) the details of the sites included so far, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh;
(c) the action plan prepared by the Government to include the important tourist sites of Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh into the major tourist spot of the country;
(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(e) the scheme being run by the Government for the comprehensive development of the tourists sites in small, rural and urban areas of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism (MOT) has launched following two new plan schemes in 2014-15 for development of tourist sites including those of historical importance:

1) Swadesh Darshan for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits around Specific Themes.

Twelve theme based circuits i.e. North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit and Ramayana Circuit have been identified for development under "Swadesh Darshan".

2) National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) to beautify and improve the amenities and infrastructure at pilgrimage centres of all faiths.

Under PRASAD, initially thirteen cities have been identified namely Ajmer, Amritsar, Amaravati, Dwaraka, Gaya, Kamakhya, Kanchipuram, Kedarnath, Mathura, Patna, Puri, Varanasi and Velankanni.

The circuits/destinations identified under the Swadesh Darshan and PRASAD schemes cover the tourist destinations in both rural and urban areas.

The Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination in the domestic and international markets, including the various tourism destinations and products of every State/Union Territory of the country.

The Ministry of Tourism, as part of its promotional activities, releases campaigns in the international and domestic markets under the Incredible India brand-line, to promote various tourism destinations and products of India. Release of such campaigns is an on-going activity of the Ministry for promotion of various tourism products and destinations in the country.

The Ministry of Tourism (MOT) provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for various tourism projects including Fairs, Festivals and Tourism related events, subject to the availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to the relevant scheme guidelines.

Details of projects sanctioned for various States/UTs including the State of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years (i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15) and 2015-16 (till date) is given in the Annexure.

This includes a project sanctioned in 2008-09 for Integrated Development of Narsinghgarh, Distt. Rajgarh for an amount of Rs.447.78 lakhs which has been completed.

Under Swadesh Darshan, a project for Wildlife Circuit in Madhya Pradesh covering Panna-Mukundpur-Govindgarh water body-Sanjay-Dubri-Bandhavgarh-Fossil Sites, Dindori-Kanha-Mukki-Nainpur-Pench has been sanctioned during 2015-16 for a total of Rs.92.22 Crore.

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